

USDA, SCS  
Section II-E  
Technical Guide  
Area 27

*Deep Sand*

~~SANDY~~

RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION

Land Resource Area R.G. and CLAYPAN

Location FLORESVILLE - SEGUIN

Date 1/1/72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: The topography of this site varies from nearly level to gently rolling and rolling. Slopes are mainly one to 10 percent. Elevation ranges from 250 to 650 feet.
2. SOILS:
  - a. The soils of this site are deep, light colored, slightly acid to acid some loamy fine sands may be included. Water soaks rapidly into the open soils. Even light showers penetrate below the evaporation zone, and are more effective on this site than on others. Water retention is relatively low, but the soils give up a high percent of their moisture to growing plants. Although air, water, and plant roots move through the soil with ease, frequent rains are needed to produce optimum plant growth. Inherent low fertility causes the soils of this site to produce forage of lower quality than most associated sites. Deep rooted plants are adapted to use the soil and moisture. Water capacity is low.
  - b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize the site are:

Eufaula fine sand  
Patilo loamy fine sand
  - c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

- a. The climax plant community on this site is an open savannah of post oak and blackjack oak trees which shade 20 to 25 percent of the ground. The understory consists of mid and tall grasses and is dominated by little bluestem, which usually makes up 50 to 75 percent of the total annual yield. Indiangrass is a sub-dominant. Also present, but less frequently or in smaller amounts, are purpletop, switchgrass, beaked panicum, sand lovegrass, crinkleawn, brownseed, and fringleaf paspalum. Good, palatable, cool season forage plants are notably scarce on this site. It does, however, grow a variety of climax forbs, legumes, sedges, and woody plants. Fire is probably a factor in maintaining an open savannah.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

Grasses	80%	Woody	15%	Forbs	5%
Little bluestem	50	Post oak &		Lespedezas	
Indiangrass	10	Blackjack oak	10	Tickclover	
Switchgrass		Hickory		Sensitivebrier	
Beaked panicum		American		Snoutbean	5
Sand lovegrass	10	beautyberry		Wildbean	
Crinkleawn		Greenbrier		Spiderwort and	
Purpletop		Hawthorns	5	Dayflower	
Brownseed paspalum		Berryvines		Tephrosia	
		Yaupon		Western indigo	
Fringeleaf paspalum		Honeysuckle		Partridgepea	
Balsamscale		Grape		Croton	T
Purple lovegrass		Alabama		Woollywhite	
Mourning lovegrass		supplejack		Bullnettle	
Tall dropseeds				Snakecotton	
Fall witchgrass	10			Yankeeweed	
Sedges					
Woollysheath threeawn					
Splitbeard and broomsedge					
bluestem					
Low panicums					

- b. Red lovegrass, yankeeweed, bullnettle, snakecotton, and croton characterize the site in a deteriorated condition. Other common invaders include broomsedge bluestem, smutgrass, annual grasses and forbs, pricklypear cactus, stillingia, beebalm, pricklypoppy, baccharis, narrowleaf rushfoil, and waxmyrtle.

The plant-soil-moisture relationship, acid reaction, and low fertility of the site are also conducive to growth of woody vegetation. As retrogression occurs, oak, yaupon, hawthorns, greenbrier, American beautyberry, waxmyrtle, and berryvines may form dense thickets.

- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 2000 to 4500 pounds of air-dry vegetation, depending upon rainfall and growing conditions. About 500 to 1000 pounds of the production will be by woody species. Some or all of this production may be unpalatable to or out of reach of grazing animals.
4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: This site is inhabited by deer, dove, and quail. Squirrels often feed on the site from adjacent bottom-land sites. This site usually has ample cover for game birds and animals and produces adequate browse, mast, forbs, and seeds for a year round food supply.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a. <u>Condition Class</u>	Percent	<u>Ac/AU/Yearlong</u>
	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	
Excellent	76 - 100	11 - 14
Good	51 - 75	14 - 17
Fair	26 - 50	17 - 20
Poor	0 - 25	20+

b. <u>Introduced Species</u>	<u>Percent Ground Cover</u>			
	<u>100-76</u>	<u>75-51</u>	<u>50-26</u>	<u>25-0</u>
Common Bermudagrass	6-10	10-15	15-25	25+
Weeping lovegrass	5-9	9-15	15-25	25+

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES <sup>1/</sup>

## a. For Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Little bluestem	Brownseed	Annual grasses & forbs
Indiangrass	paspalum	Broomsedge bluestem
Switchgrass	Fringeleaf	Red lovegrass
Beaked panicum	paspalum	Tumblegrass
Sand lovegrass	Low panicums	Windmillgrass
Crinkleawn	Tall dropseeds	Bullnettle
Purpletop	Purple lovegrass	Croton
Lespedezas	Mourning lovegrass	Bushfoil
Tickclover	Fall witchgrass	Pricklypoppy
Sensitivebriar	Sedges	Beebalm
Snoutbean	Balsamscale	Queen's delight
Wildbean	Splitbeard	Western ragweed
Vetch	bluestem	Snakecotton
	Woollysheath	Yankee weed
	crinkleawn	Woollywhite
		Oak
		Berryvines
		Hawthorns
		American beautyberry
		Yaupon
		Greenbrier
		Pricklypear
		Waxmyrtle
		Baccharis

## b. For Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Greenbrier	American	Other grasses
Oak mast	beautyberry	Bullnettle
Yaupon	Elm	Croton
Sassafras	Hawthorns	Rushfoil
Berryvines	Oak buds	Queen's delight
Tickclover	and twigs	Western ragweed
Vetch	Lespedezas	Snakecotton
Sensitivebriar	Sedges	Yankee weed
Snoutbean	Spiderwort &	Pricklypear
Wildbean	Dayflower	Baccharis
	Cromwells	Partridgepea
		Woollywhite
		Pricklypoppy
		Beebalm

<sup>1/</sup> Definitions of terms and an explanation of interpretations is given on a separate page which is attached or submitted with each group of range site descriptions.

c. For Quail and Dove

Primary

Croton  
Western ragweed  
Partridgepea  
Tickclover  
Lespedezas  
Sensitivebriar  
Snoutbean  
Slickseed wildbean  
Vetch  
Paspalum seed  
Panicum seed  
Mast

Secondary

Lovegrass seed  
Waxmyrtle  
Pricklypoppy

Low Value

Fuzzy seeded  
grasses & forbs  
Rushfoil  
Beebalm  
Queen's delight  
Snakecotton  
Yankeeweed  
Pricklypear  
Baccharis

d. For Squirrel

Primary

Oak mast  
Dewberries  
Haws  
Greenbrier fruit  
Yaupon fruit  
American  
beautyberries  
Persimmon

Secondary

Large seeded  
grasses & forbs  
Buds & twigs

Low Value